



Christmas is the supreme season of happiness for children. Their brains are filled with the beautiful imaginations of the good deeds of old Santa Claus. Many of them receive their first strong impressions in discriminating between good and wrong, and the rewards for the former and the punishments for the latter.

The festive character of Christmas being undeniable, nothing can or could be more pleasing to the children and more strictly in accordance with the spirit of the day than a house party.

The day should begin for the child with the finding of his stockings filled with presents, which on the previous evening were hung on the bed post. This pretty custom should be encouraged until the wonderful travels and kindnesses of Santa Claus are looked upon with doubt by the recipient of his bounty.

The children should gather about the Christmas tree as presents are distributed. Of course if the father wants to impersonate Santa Claus so much the better. His appearance will be appreciated by the youngest and cannot be resented by the more experienced ones of 12 or 13 years.

Here are some suggestions in games.

With a sympathetic person assisting the little folks, there should be plenty of fun.

"Whose Are the Eyes?"
This is a game which has attained great popularity, dimly suggests the Vehmgericht, the secret tribunal of old Westphalia, in which the judges sat closely cowed and with their faces invisible. The game, however, is all mirth. Two of those that take part in it are seated side by side. Over the head of each is placed an outstretched newspaper. In this paper two holes are cut. The paper conceals the head of each of the players beneath and only the eyes are visible through the eye holes. The object of the game is for the rest of the players to guess the ownership of the eyes as they see them by holding a candle close to them.

"Blow Out the Candle."
About as popular as this game is "Blow Out the Candle." One of the party is sent from the room. He or she returns blindfolded. A candle burns in the room, around which the other merry-makers are gathered. The blindfolded player must advance to the candle and blow it out.

It looks easy, but it isn't. The thickness of the blind is so dense that the light of the candle cannot be seen

through it and in most cases the puff which should extinguish the candle is directed in the most absurd places.

"Blind Man's Buff."
If there is a person who has never played this game, he will undoubtedly seek to conceal the fact. The old can join with the young, and what could cause more merriment than to see uncle bump his knee against the table or mistake Aunt Jane for grandma?

"The Bobbing Apple."
This is a delight pure and simple. Hang an apple from the ceiling and offer a small prize to the one who is able to grasp it with the teeth without singeing it in any way. Let each child try in turn.

"Musical Chair."
This is considered great by the young, especially if there is a good lively player at the piano. Arrange the chairs in a row, having one less than the number of players. When the music suddenly stops each will make an effort to seat himself, but one must be disappointed.

"Charades."
The description of charades should have been left for the last, because it affords a true climax. Lucky are the children who can go rummaging and have in store for the party a whole lot of old clothes with which to impersonate the familiar home figures. This game requires an intelligent person to oversee it, and the children should enter into it with much seriousness, which gives an added charm to it. It is great fun to see a little fellow come in wearing an old hat and shawl of his mamma's or a little girl clothed in a large vest with a silk hat pulled down over her ears.

Planning for the older guests on Christmas day should be guided by the aim to have them forget that they are old. To say the least, it is bad form to do and act in such a manner as to continually remind some old grandma that she is nearing the end of her course, when she might be doing her best level to forget it.

Games Are Old as Guests.
Of course, many of the older guests will indulge in cards, chess or checkers, while others will find their greatest pleasure in assisting the children. But for those that really want to play games in which all can join try these and don't be surprised if one of your guests remarks:

"Why, I played that game when I was a child."

Rather expect it—for very little in the celebration of Christmas is new.

Game of Plum Pudding.
This game has been played for years in this country under many names, but as near as can be learned the above name is proper.

A round piece of wood or a tin pan is provided and titled "Plum Pudding." The company proceed to choose partners by fixing upon two generals, Gen. Kettle and Gen. Pot.

These officers then commence choosing alternately soldiers from among the company, performing the ceremony of conferring title with some unique speech. Kisses might do in place of words when the soldier is a woman.

The titles should be confined to names familiar in the culinary art, as Lieut. Gen. Duck or Carver, Maj. Gen. Muffin or Fork, Col. Coffee Pot or Carrot, Maj. Corkscrew or Ladle, and Private Potato or 'Leach, and so forth until all the players have been chosen.

The game begins with Gen. Kettle who takes the "Plum Pudding" (the plate) between his finger and thumb, ready for spinning on the table or floor, and commences his narrative thus:

"As I was sitting on the fire this morning, sputtering with rage at having no enemy to boil, who should come along in a bag and string but old Plum Pudding. The moment he caught sight of me he ran off, I after him. When turning around a corner I saw Maj. Corkscrew—"

At this word Gen. Kettle spins the "Plum Pudding," which it is Maj. Corkscrew's duty to keep up and continue the story until he mentions "Plum Pudding" and the assumed name of another player.

Forfeits are exigible for letting the "Plum Pudding" fall, for speaking of yourself as a human being and for failing to continue the story properly, as by failing in the narrative by calling an enemy by a wrong title.

When enough forfeits have been collected penalties are then imposed by the two generals, the performance of which is required before the forfeit is returned.

ATTRACTIONS OF WESTERN CANADA.

Magnificent Crop Returns for the Year 1906.

The manner in which the Canadian West has attracted settlers in recent years has caused many of our journals and public men to "sit up and take notice," to use a current phrase. From every European country and from almost every State in the Union large numbers of settlers have flocked to the prairie provinces of Canada, where free homesteads and wide opportunities are open to all who desire to avail themselves of them.

The greatest factor in attracting settlers lies in the inherent richness of soil and suitability of climate for producing what is universally considered to be the finest wheat in the world—the "No. 1 Hard" of Canadian growth—and other cereals that rank in the very first class. This year the harvest returns were: Wheat, 90,000,000 bushels; oats, 76,000,000 bushels; barley, 17,000,000 bushels; and when it is considered that the entire population of the three provinces—as evidenced by the quinquennial census just completed—is only 810,000, it is easily seen that the lure of the Canadian West is in its agricultural potentialities.

Another feature which attracts the settler is that railway construction is proceeding with such rapidity that almost every district is within easy reach of outside markets, and that good prices for all lines of farm products rule practically from the commencement of agricultural operations. This is a factor which did not prevail when the earlier settlements in the West were made in Canada and in the United States, and has given a great impetus to Canadian Western settlement in recent years.

The free grant system of homesteads which prevails in the prairie provinces, by which every settler who is able and willing to comply with the conditions of actual settlement (by no means onerous) is given 160 acres free, except \$10 for entry, is a great drawing card, and in the last fiscal year gathered in over 184,000 additional to the western population, of which 57,796 were from the United States.

The further fact, as is strongly brought about by the agent of the Canadian Government, whose address appears elsewhere, that a splendid common school system, practically free, prevails throughout the entire country, and is easy of access in even the most remote districts, is another great inducement to the settler who has the future welfare of his family in mind, and this, coupled with the fact that western Canadian law and order are proverbial, completes a circle of good and sufficient reasons why the tide of immigration has set in so steadily toward the country to the north of our boundary line.

TRAFFIC IN HUMAN FLESH.

German Hospital Officials Accused of Serious Offenses.

A sensational case has been occupying the Hamburg law courts. Recently the head of a workmen's association, Herr Schenberg, publicly accused the Hamburg hospital of carrying on a large traffic in corpses. He declared that closed coffins were delivered to relatives of the deceased containing only ashes and rubbish or a wooden image. In several cases the body had been placed in the coffin in the presence of the relatives, and extracted after their departure. The leg of a man who had suffered from a peculiar disease was cut off and replaced by that of a dead woman. In this state the body was exhibited to the relatives. A former employee of the hospital, whose trial for selling bodies was the occasion of these disclosures, declared that he had seen the arms of a dead man amputated and replaced by a girl's arms in order that the man's relatives should suspect nothing. It was also proved that warders had cut off and sold heads and other parts of corpses for their own profit and without the knowledge of the doctors. In two cases at least coffins were buried containing only parts of the body.

Pugilist's Sudden Conversion.

"Kid" Wedge, a light-weight pugilist who claimed to be champion of Arkansas, was training for a fight with Guy Buckles in Omaha. Suddenly he "got religion" and sent word to the management of the club where he was to appear explaining why they would have to make other arrangements. At the same time he mailed a copy of the New Testament to Mr. Buckles, who, as he fully expected to win the fight which had been arranged, is not yet entirely resigned.

Catarrh Cannot Be Cured

with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quick medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best medicines known, combined with the best blood purifier, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of these two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing catarrh. Send for testimonials, free. J. C. CHASEY & CO., Props., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, price 50c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Where Lawyers Are Unpopular.

A lawyer made his appearance at Colobar, West Africa, the other day and a Gold Coast newspaper, noting the fact, said: "It is very unsafe for the people for lawyers to practice at this place. Their appearance in this river will soon inveigle everyone who is not careful into litigation, and they will feed on their folly, thereby ruining them."

Says a woman: "I care not who does the thinking so long as I am permitted to do the talking."

TRYING EXPERIENCE.

Spent Over \$100 in a Vain Search for Health.

Miss Frances Gardner, of 369 Jackson boulevard, Chicago, Ill., writes:

"Gentlemen: I heartily endorse Doan's Kidney Pills, as I have found by personal experience that they are an ideal kidney remedy. I suffered with complications of kidney complaint for nearly five years, spent over \$100 on useless remedies, while five boxes of Doan's Kidney Pills cured me in a few short weeks. I am now enjoying the best of health, have a fine appetite, the best of digestion, and restful sleep, all due to your splendid pills."

Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

BROKE THE WILDCAT'S BACK.

Philadelphia Man Victorious in Hand-to-Hand Combat.

Unarmed and alone, Thomas Dyke was attacked by a wildcat on Locust mountain, south of Mount Carmel, Pa. He had been in Ashland and started to drive home. His horse stopped on a nail and he put the animal in a stable.

Then he started to walk home and was on the mountain when the cries of a wildcat alarmed him. A few minutes later he saw the beast ten feet in front of him. The animal finally sprang. He jumped aside and as the body of the cat struck the road he leaped upon it. For several minutes the fight between the wild animal and the man went on. At length by a quick swing he broke the animal's back.

A physician dressed the several deep scratches on his face and hands, but otherwise he was uninjured.

TORTURED WITH ECZEMA.

Tremendous Itching Over Whole Body—Scratched Until Bled—Wonderful Cure by Cuticura.

"Last year I suffered with a tremendous itching on my back, which grew worse and worse, until it spread over the whole body, and only my face and hands were free. For four months or so I suffered torments, and I had to scratch, scratch, scratch, until I bled. At night when I went to bed things got worse, and I had at times to get up and scratch my body all over, until I was as sore as could be, and until I suffered excruciating pains. They told me that I was suffering from eczema. Then I made up my mind that I would use the Cuticura Remedies. I used them according to instructions, and very soon indeed I was greatly relieved. I continued until well, and now I am ready to recommend the Cuticura Remedies to any one. Mrs. Mary Metzger, Sweetwater, Okla., June 28, 1905."

Squirrels as Waiters.

It has taken Fisk Goodyear of Burchtown, Pa., two years to train his pet squirrels, but his efforts are now repaid, and on Thanksgiving he treated his friends to a surprise.

Gathering half a hundred or more gray squirrels, Mr. Goodyear taught them to go into the woods and pick up nuts, carrying them to his home. On Thanksgiving night at a dinner his guests noticed a small board running from a window to a nut bowl. The host gave one knock on the table with his knife. A squirrel hopped down the plank and dropped a chestnut into the bowl. Two raps brought a squirrel with a walnut, three knocks a shellbark.

Finally, a grave old squirrel took his place and cracked the nuts, winding up the performance by brushing off the crumbs with his thick bushy tail.

The Highest Bridge.

Work is now in progress on a suspension bridge over the famous "Royal gorge" of the Arkansas river, in Colorado, at a point where the channel is only 50 feet wide at the bottom and 230 feet wide at the top. This bridge will span the river 267 feet above the surface of the water, and will be, therefore, by far the highest bridge in the world. The material will be of flat steel and steel cables, the curved girders finding secure attachment in the solid sides of the canyon. The floor of the bridge will be of plate glass one and one-half inches thick, to afford visitors the pleasure of looking down the chasm. On each side will be strong, high steel railings. The bridge is part of an electric railway scheme.

The Evils of Constipation.

are many; in fact almost every serious illness has its origin in constipation, and some medicines, instead of preventing constipation, add to it. This is true of most cathartics, which, when first used, have a beneficial effect, but the dose has to be continually increased, and before long the remedy ceases to have the slightest effect. There is one preparation, however, that can be relied upon to produce the same results with the same dose, even after fifty years' daily use, and this is Brandreth's Pills, which has a record of over 100 years as the standard remedy for constipation and all troubles arising from an impure state of the blood.

Brandreth's Pills are the same fine laxative tonic pill your grandparents used, and are for sale everywhere, either plain or sugar-coated.

As a rule, when people say what they mean a lot of explanation is necessary.

Anyone can dye with PUTNAM FADE-LESS DYES; no experience required; success guaranteed.

Blushes may come and blushes may go, but freckles hang on forever.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething, soothes the gums, reduces inflammation, cures colic, cures wind colic. In a bottle.

"Has your health brought you happiness?" asked the philosopher. "Perhaps not," answered Mr. Dustin Stax; "but it has at least stood between me and a lot of annoyances."

National Pure Food and Drugs Act.

Serial No. 384, assigned by the Government, and Guaranty that the preparations comply in every respect with the requirements of the Pure Food and Drugs Act, appear on every package of the Garfield Tea Company's preparations.

Half Pay for British Officers.

All British officers on the effective list of the army that are elected members of the House of Commons are to be placed on half pay from the date of their election.

Important to Mothers.

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it is

Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Watson*
In Use For Over 30 Years.
The Kind You Have Always Bought.

Competent for Jury Service.

During the ice trust trial in Philadelphia a prospective juror was quizzed about the quantity of ice he used. "I use a little occasionally," he said. "How much? Enough to temper a highball?" What do you mean by a highball?" roared the attorney. "An amateur," murmured the juror. "Can not presume to enlighten an expert." "This man is a competent juror," chimed the court, and the trial proceeded.

The Sunny South.

Now when all outdoor farm work has ceased in the north, the term "sunny south" and all that it means, appeals with full force to the northern farmer as he realizes that with him it is a case of remaining indoors for the next several months consuming everything that has been produced during the growing season. In the "sunny south" something can be raised every month in the year, and practically every day can be spent outdoors. No blizzards. No sunstrokes. Cattle-raising is very profitable. Large profits are made with little labor in growing fruits, vegetables, etc., for northern markets. Strawberries and cantaloupes are great revenue getters. Water unsurpassed. Work plentiful. Lands cheap and productive. For reliable information, address G. A. Park, General Immigration and Industrial Agent, Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company, Louisville, Ky.

Picturesque German Customs.

A curious custom prevails in the German navy when the sailors, having served their time, pass into the reserve. They don the "reserve flask"—also used on a similar occasion in the army—and parade the streets wearing caps with ribbons which reach to the ground, other ribbons being attached to the canes they carry.

New Hobby for Collectors.

The ingenuity of collectors in the discovery of new fields having been exhausted, there is still open to them that of collecting the finest specimen of forged or spurious works of art and this is capable of becoming a hobby scarcely less interesting or admirable than the pursuit of the genuine article.—Art Journal.

Less Beer Drunk in Munich.

In the last seven years the consumption of beer has fallen from 120 to 70 gallons a head in Munich.



READERS

of this paper desiring to buy anything advertised in its columns should insist upon having what they ask for, refusing all substitutes or imitations.



JOIN THE NAVY

Which enlists for 4 years young men of good character and sound physical condition between the ages of 17 and 25 as apprentices; wages; opportunities for advancement; pay \$15 to \$20 a month. Electricians, machinists, blacksmiths, coopersmiths, yeomen (clerks), carpenters, ship-fitters, dressers, musicians, cooks, etc., between 21 and 25 years, enlisted in special ratings with suitable pay. Retirement on three-fourths pay and allowances after 20 years' service. Applicants must be American citizens. First clothing outfit free to recruits. Upon discharge travel allowance 4 cents per mile to place of enlistment. Bonus four months' pay and increase in pay upon re-enlistment within four months of discharge. U. S. NAVY RECRUITING STATION, No. 33 Lafayette Avenue, DETROIT, MICH.

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CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS. Genuine Must Bear Fac-Simile Signature. REFUSE SUBSTITUTES.

NEW WHEAT LANDS IN THE CANADIAN WEST

5,000 additional miles of railway this year have opened up a large unoccupied territory to the progressive farmer. The Canadian Government and the Government of the Dominion of Ontario have decided to give ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY ACRES FREE to every settler.

THE COUNTRY HAS NO SUPERIOR

Coal, wood and water in abundance; churches and schools convenient; markets easy of access; taxes low; climate the best in the northern temperate zone. Law and order prevail everywhere. For advice and information address the SUPERINTENDENT OF IMMIGRATION, Ottawa, Canada, or any authorized Canadian Government Agent. M. V. McINNES, 6 Avenue Theatre Block, Detroit, Michigan; or C. A. LAURIER, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

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W. N. U., DETROIT, NO. 51, 1906.

WINTER TERM FROM JAN. 2

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In no other city in America is Christmas celebrated in so many different ways as in Washington, for at Washington are gathered the official representatives of every land—Christian as well as pagan—and in the embassies and legations the holiday is celebrated according to the custom in vogue in the countries having representatives there.

So it is that the celebration there is international as well as national in character. Quaint customs, indeed, prevail in the diplomatic corps. In one house you will find Christians commemorating the birth of the Saviour, while in a house across the street a pagan brother from the orient is celebrating an entirely different day, for an entirely different occasion.

Pursuant to a long-established custom, ambassadors and minister plenipotentiaries entertain their official staffs at Christmas, inviting, also, such other friends as they may desire to have visit the legation at that time.

Probably the ambassador from Italy and his wife are the most gracious hosts of any of the foreigners at Washington, and their guests at Christmas time are always well welcomed around the Yule log, which burns brightly in the open fireplace. A large urn full of gifts is placed on a table and visitors have great sport getting their presents from out the vast pile.

Germany is the home of the Christmas tree and Kris Kringle. It is, therefore, appropriate that at the Kaiser's embassy the most cosmopolitan Christmas should be celebrated—the custom of the "Faderland" blended with those of the Baroness von Sternberg's "old Kentucky Home."

The family of Senor Casaus, the brilliant Mexican ambassador at Washington, is a happy one, and all of its members join heartily in their native way of celebrating the "Poada." At half past seven on Christmas eve they assemble in a room

ornamented with representations of saints and angels, the Virgin Mary and Joseph, the wise men from the east, shepherds, sheep and oxen. The presents are previously placed on a great earthen swan in the center of the room, and as the young people fall in line and march around the swan, each gives it a blow with a small stick until the bird is broken. Then the fun begins—a scramble for the gifts ensues, followed by games and the usual merry-making.

An American hostess presides over the embassy where floats the tri-colored flag, and joins her welcome with that of her distinguished husband, the French ambassador. Here, again, we find the Yule log burning, and in its glow the Bethlehem manger is represented. Built on a table in the living room, it remains for two weeks of "Noel," a gentle reminder of the sacred meaning of Christmas.

At the Russian embassy, a few blocks distant from the French, Mile. Rosen, the school girl daughter of the czar's ambassador, presides over the Christmas celebration.

Dreams had on that night are supposed to come to pass, and from the Russian standpoint, unlucky is the girl who has no dream to relate while preparing her morning toilet. Early service is attended in the embassy chapel (there is no Greek church in Washington), and then fortune telling games are in order.

The children of the Peruvian legation at Washington will celebrate their Christmas around a "Grotto of the Nativity" in miniature. Instead of around the proverbial Christmas tree, this grotto will be surrounded by pots of nourishers of various sizes, with growing plants of different grains, while the gifts will be arranged in and around the whole.

These presents are always selected with the greatest care, the object being to have them indicate the progress of the world since the birth of the Christ-child.